

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



**Dear Residents,**

Traffic and congestion are consistently ranked a top priority in citizen surveys, and City Council took a major step with the adoption of the 2010-2011 city budget. You will soon see the start of a number of road projects designed to drastically improve mobility in Killeen.

The largest of four roads scheduled for construction is Stagecoach. This project will widen the road to four lanes from SH 195 to the Harker Heights city limit creating a new east-west connector and servicing the growing southern area of town.

The two portions of Elms Rd. will be connected creating a new east-west route between Clear Creek Rd. to Stan Schlueter

Loop. The road will be connected through SH 195.

Cunningham Rd. will be reconstructed from Stan Schlueter Loop to Stagecoach Rd. The three-lane road will relieve traffic on W.S. Young Dr. and Onion Rd.

Finally, Bunny Tr. will become a five-lane road between Stan Schlueter Loop and Clear Creek Rd. Increasing the capacity of this connection will alleviate growing traffic from residential development and a new school.

Two other projects included on the list are the extension of Lowe's Blvd. from Trimmier Rd. to Florence Rd. and Rosewood Dr. from US 190 to Fawn Dr.

Mobility is not just a local government priority. The state recently awarded two major highway projects to Killeen at the Rosewood Dr. at US 190 and the SH 195 at SH 201 intersections.

As Killeen continues to grow,

these transportation connections will prove essential to our quality of life.

*Timothy L. Hancock*  
**MAYOR**

## CITY COUNCIL

**Timothy L. Hancock, Mayor**

254-526-0545

**Scott Cosper, Mayor Pro Tem**

254-526-2167

**Larry Cole, At Large**

254-220-9235

**Billy Workman, At Large**

254-338-8337

**Kenny Wells, District 1**

254-681-4977

**Juan Rivera, District 2**

254-338-4304

**JoAnn Purser, District 3**

254-466-7575

**Ernest Wilkerson, District 4**

254-220-8618

## VISIT HISTORIC DOWNTOWN KILLEEN

Big things are happening in Downtown Killeen. Revitalizing the city's oldest area has been a hot topic for many years, and the signs of progress are becoming increasingly visible.

In 2008, the city commissioned a historic resources survey of Downtown to establish a list of historic assets and the boundaries of a potential historic district. The following year, the Historic Overlay District was created encompassing the area of Veterans Memorial Blvd. to Rancier Ave. from 10th St. to Root Ave.

With the historic area identified, design guidelines were enacted to protect and enhance historic assets. Then a façade improvement grant program was

created to improve the appearance of Downtown properties.

A series of new directional signs have been placed in and around Downtown pointing visitors toward the area and helping guide their way once there.

Killeen was accepted into the Certified Local Government Program of the Texas Historical



Commission. This state program provides grant funding and support for preservation initiatives.

The city will next apply for national recognition in the National Register of Historic Places.

In July, Killeen received a \$2.5 million grant from TxDOT to extend the Andy K. Wells Hike & Bike Trail all the way to Downtown. The grant also provides for a downtown pedestrian loop and streetscaping. Construction is set to begin in 2011.

While the signs of revitalization are increasingly evident, the work is just beginning. City Council is now working toward the adoption of the Downtown Plan to ensure progress continues for the next 20-plus years.

## LAY A HOLIDAY WREATH AT THE VETERANS CEMETERY

Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery serves as the peaceful resting place for deceased veterans and their family members. Completed in 2006, the cemetery continues to receive a tremendous outpouring of community support.

The Friends of the Central Texas Veterans Cemetery is a non-profit group organized to support the cemetery. The Friends are planning the annual

wreath project, where a holiday wreath will be laid at each grave for the holiday season.

Wreaths will be laid at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 27, and anyone wishing to participate is encouraged to attend.

Volunteers are also needed to prepare the wreaths Saturday, November 20, at 10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 508 North Gray St.

For more information on how

you can volunteer, donate, or support this very important project, visit the website at [www.wreathsforvets.org](http://www.wreathsforvets.org).



## STONETREE IS TEE-RIFIC FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS



Treat the golfer in your life to a tee-rific holiday with gifts from Stonetree Golf Club!

Stonetree's full service pro shop is stocked with all the brands and products on your golfer's wish list. Our expert staff can help you pick out the perfect golf balls, tees, caps, shirts, shoes, or even a new set of clubs. And don't forget a Stonetree gift certificate for a perfect stocking stuffer!

Let Stonetree Golf Club help with your holiday shopping. Stop by the pro shop at 1600 Stonetree Dr. or call 501-6575.

### HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City offices will be closed on the following dates:

**November 25 & 26**  
**December 23, 24, & 31**  
**January 17**

Emergency services and garbage collection will operate without interruption.

**Happy Holidays**  
**from the City of Killeen!**

## HOLIDAY SAFETY REMINDERS

### Trees

When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness – a dried out tree is a fire hazard.

Make sure to set up your tree far from fireplaces, radiators, and portable heaters. Place it out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

### Lights and Decorations

Check all tree lights – even brand new ones – before hanging them on your tree. Make sure all bulbs work and there are no frayed wires, broken sockets, or loose connections.

Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become electrically charged from faulty lights, and a person touching it could be electrocuted.

Before using lights outdoors, check labels to make sure they are certified for outdoor use. To hold lights in place, string them through hooks or insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them, and always turn off all lights indoors and out before leaving the house or going to bed.

Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens.

Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they won't be knocked over.

In homes with small children, avoid decorations that are sharp and breakable. Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of reach of children.

Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation when decorating with spun glass "angel hair" and follow container directions to avoid lung irritation when decorating with artificial snow spray.

### Toys

Select toys to suit the age, abilities, and interests of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose a safety risk. To prevent burns and electrical shock, don't give young children toys that must be plugged in. Buy battery-operated toys instead.

Children can have serious stomach and intestinal problems after swallowing button batteries and magnets. Keep them away from young kids and call your doctor immediately if your child swallows one. Watch for pull toys with strings longer than 12 inches which can be a strangulation hazard for babies.

*A safe holiday is a happy holiday!*

## I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

Reduce, reuse, and recycle at the annual Christmas tree recycling program.

Residents are invited to drop off Christmas trees Saturday, January 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Special Events Center on W.S. Young Dr.

Keep Killeen Beautiful and the Public Works Department will collect the trees, chip and shred them, and offer them back to residents as landscaping mulch. The first 20 residents to donate their trees will even receive a complimentary Afghan Pine sapling!

For more information, call 501-7878.

## FENCE ORDINANCE CHANGES

City Council recently amended Killeen's fences and walls ordinance in an effort to enhance the safety and aesthetics of the city.

The ordinance applies to properties in residential and professional business zoning districts and establishes the following:

- Barbed-wire fencing, electric fencing, or fencing topped with sharp objects is prohibited
- Smooth, finished sides of fences on properties facing the public right-of-way must face outward, with the support posts on the inside
- Maximum height of a fence in the front yard is 5 feet; those taller than 4 feet cannot be made of chainlink or of opaque character, like solid wood
- Side yard fences cannot exceed 7 feet, and rear yard fences cannot exceed 8 feet
- The maximum height for a chainlink fence is 6 feet in both side and rear yards
- Front and rear yard fences are not permitted in the public right-of-way or any sight distance triangles which could obstruct a motorist's view of oncoming traffic
- Fences may not encroach into

any portion of a drainage easement or public right-of-way unless approved by the city

- Fences are permitted in publicly dedicated utility easements located in front, side, and rear yards but are placed in these areas at the risk of the property owner
- Any gate opening constructed as part of a fence must be at least three feet in width to allow for passage of emergency personnel
- An outward swinging front gate cannot lock if it extends across the property line or into the public right-of-way

Residents are required to obtain a building permit to erect, move, or replace an existing fence. A permit is also required to repair 51 percent or more of an existing fence.

To view the entire ordinance, visit the city's website at **[www.ci.killeen.tx.us](http://www.ci.killeen.tx.us)**.

Violations of the fences and walls ordinance is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by fines up to \$2,000.

For more information or to report a violation call Permits & Inspections at 501-7764.

## FLY KILLEEN FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As you plan your flights to visit friends and family during the holiday season, remember that Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport is convenient and hassle-free.

Served by three commercial airlines, the airport offers plenty of flight options with twenty departures and twenty arrivals daily. American, Continental, and Delta offer direct flights to hubs in Dallas, Houston, and Atlanta.

Your airport staff offers these helpful tips to ease the hustle and bustle of flying this season:

- Book your flight as early as possible to secure the best flight time and ticket price.
- Verify the status of your flight with the airline on the day of travel.
- Arrive at the airport 90 minutes before your flight time.
- Know the Transportation Security Administration's latest regulations and pack accordingly. Visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) for current information.
- Be flexible and stay positive.

Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport  
*We'll take you there!*



WE'LL TAKE YOU THERE  
FLYKILLEEN.NET





## HO HO HO, WHO WOULDN'T GO... TO HOLIDAY UNDER THE STARS

Come celebrate the holidays with free entertainment and community fellowship for all at Holiday Under the Stars December 4 at the Killeen Community Center.

The festivities officially kick off at 8 a.m. with Breakfast in Toyland and the Jingle Bell Dash 5K run. Come back at noon for bouncies, food, arts and crafts, a petting zoo, skating on the synthetic ice rink, and much more.

At 6 p.m., Santa flies in to light the city's 50-foot holiday tree. Then he'll greet the young and young at heart to listen to wish lists and pose for photos.

The fun will wind down at 6:30 with a Movie in the Park screening of *Elf* complete with cookies and hot cocoa.

Come celebrate the season at Holiday Under the Stars! For more information call Parks & Recreation at 501-8889.



## OUTDOOR DECORATING CONTEST

It's time to unpack the holiday lights and lawn ornaments for the city's annual outdoor decorating contest! Check the city website, [www.ci.killeen.tx.us](http://www.ci.killeen.tx.us), for information on how to register your festively decorated home by December 3.

This year, the residents will vote via the website to determine the winners. Prizes will be awarded to the favorites at the Council meeting December 14.

For more information or to register your house, call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

## LETTERS TO SANTA

Santa's helpers are collecting letters from boys and girls in Killeen! Just drop your letter in the box at the Community Center or Family Recreation Center between November 29 and December 17, and they'll make sure it gets to the North Pole before Christmas.

Address your letter to: Santa Claus c/o The North Pole. Don't forget to include your return address so he can write you back!

## CHRISTMAS PARADE IS A FAMILY TRADITION

The city will host its 48th Annual Christmas Parade December 11 at 4:30 p.m. in historic downtown Killeen. Don't miss the magic as dozens of entries from local organizations and schools wind through the streets, showcasing the spirit and cheer of the holidays!

The theme is "A Family Christmas," so be there with yours for this special community event.

For more information or to register your group to participate in the parade call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

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## FEAST OF SHARING

Killeen is joining HEB for the third annual Feast of Sharing community meal December 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center.

The Feast of Sharing highlights an ongoing effort to combat hunger by serving free holiday meals to families in our community. Everyone is welcome to take part in this special event.

For more information or to volunteer, call Volunteer Services at 501-7878.

## COMMEMORATIVE HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS

The 125th Birthday Committee's 2010 Killeen holiday ornament is now available for \$20. Featuring the III Corps Caltrop, this year's ornament pays tribute to our friend and neighbor, Fort Hood.

The 2008 ornament features the historic Killeen School and the 2009 ornament features the historic Santa Fe Train Depot. Each is \$15.

These limited edition pewter ornaments are available at Stonetree Golf Club and the Civic & Conference Center.

